

Positive klia2 performance boosts MAHB figures

By **Claire Malcolm** on July, 21 2014 | Airlines & Airports



Malaysia Airports Holdings Berhad (MAHB) has reported positive first half performance for 2014 of 41.3 million passengers across its network, representing an 11.8% growth over the same period in 2013.

The company continued its year-on-year growth spurt, registering a 3.8% rise in passenger traffic in June 2014 to reach a year-to-date record high of 7.2 million passenger movements.

In 2013 the company saw a growth spike of 21.5% across its 39-strong airport network, which includes the flagship Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA), Kota Kinabalu International Airport, Langkawi International Airport and Penang International Airport.

Passenger demographics across MAHB's airports showed 2% growth in international traffic against a more robust domestic growth figure of 5.4% compared to 2013.



The latest figures show 24.4 million passengers through KLIA in H1 2014, or 9.7% growth against 2013.

The political situation in Thailand, continued lower visitor numbers from China, rising tension in the Middle East and capacity cuts by Singapore-based carriers affected passenger growth trends, which had a domino effect on feeder traffic from KLIA to other MAHB locations with a drop in passenger traffic.

At KLIA, passenger movements grew by 1.3% in June 2014 over June 2013 with international passenger traffic increasing by 2.7% but registering a decline in domestic traffic of 1.9%.

The May 2014 opening of klia2 also impacted numbers at KLIA-Main where overall traffic dropped by 8.3% while the new terminal grew by 12.8%. This is partly attributable to the relocation of Lion Air and Malindo Airways from KLIA-Main to klia2. Assuming a same operational airline scenario, this showed a KLIA-Main traffic decline of 4.5% versus 7.6% growth for klia2 in June 2014.

Looking at the capacity of the old KLIA-LCCT, the new klia2 handled more passengers than the earlier KLIA-Main terminal, buoyed by the fact that the new terminal is designed to accommodate a larger number of airlines than its temporary predecessor. However, MAHB noted that there were still more international passengers at KLIA-Main compared to klia2 during June.

Conversely, KLIA's 'mixed' performance was offset by an increase in direct domestic flights from other MAHB airports, showing total passenger growth of 9.4% over the same period last year.